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DOCTOR WHO

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GIANT
CYBERMAN
POSTER
INSIDE

CYBERMEN:
THE FUTURE
OF MANKIND?



The Cybermen

The Creation of the Cybermen

Centuries ago by our Earth time, a race of men on the far-distant planet of Mondas sought immortality. They perfected the art of cybernetics — the reproduction of machine functions in human beings. As bodies became old and diseased, they were replaced, limb by limb, with plastic and steel.

Finally, even the human circulation and nervous system were recreated, and brains replaced by computers. The first Cybermen were born.

Their metal limbs gave them the strength of ten men, and the built-in respiratory system allowed them to live in the vacuum of space. They were immune to cold and heat, and immensely intelligent and resourceful.

Their main impediment was one that only a flesh and blood man would have recognised: they had no heart, no emotions, no feelings. They lived by the inexorable laws of

pure logic. Love, hate, anger, even fear, were eliminated from their lives when the last flesh was replaced by plastic.

They achieved their immortality at a terrible price. They became dehumanised monsters. And, like human monsters down through the ages of Earth, they became aware of the lack of love and feeling in their lives and substituted another goal — power!

Their large silver bodies became practically indestructible and their ruthless drive was untempered by any consideration other than basic logic.

If the enemy was more powerful than you, you left the field. If he could be defeated, you killed, imprisoned or enslaved. You were unswayed by pity or mercy.

Adapted from *Doctor Who – The Tomb of the Cybermen* by Gerry Davis, published by Virgin Books and reprinted with kind permission.



The Powers Behind the Throne

It was not until the Second Doctor made his first landing on Telos that he encountered the real power behind the Cybermen — the CyberController. With his special cranium design, he masterminded the plan to lure the Earth-based Brotherhood of Logicians to Telos and free the Cybermen from their cybernation. However, with the Doctor's intervention, the plan was ultimately foiled, the CyberController apparently destroyed and the Cybermen refrozen within their tombs.

Although a majority of Cyberman plans relied upon the command abilities of a CyberLeader, the attack on the Wheel in Space and later on Earth, in which the Second Doctor teamed up with the fledgling United Nations Intelligence Taskforce, was overseen by a non-humanoid CyberPlanner. During the invasion of Earth, the CyberPlanner housed within the offices of International Electromatics and specifically that of IE's Managing Director, Tobias Vaughn. When Vaughn realised that the Cybermen had duped him, he used the emotion-inducing Cerebration Mentor on the CyberPlanner and destroyed it, cutting off the Cybermen's major link with Earth.

Chasing the mercenary Lytton from Earth in 1986, the Sixth Doctor became embroiled in a plot by the Cybermen to destroy Earth by using the approaching Halley's Comet. The Cybermen took the Doctor back to Telos where he encountered a recovered and rebuilt CyberController, masterminding the plan. With the help of Telos' native inhabitants, the Cryons, the Doctor was able to thwart the Cybermen's plan and he himself used a Cybergun on the CyberController, apparently destroying him once and for all.

However, the Cybermen have continued to plan, attack and destroy, suggesting that someone is still masterminding their operations. If the Second Doctor was mistaken in believing the CyberController was destroyed, perhaps the Sixth Doctor was equally as misguided...



Cryons

The original inhabitants of the planet Telos, the ice-dependent Cryons were quickly subjugated by invaders. After leaving their original planet of Mondas, the Cybermen sought out a new home upon which they could build massive refrigeration plants to act as their hibernation tombs. Telos offered everything they needed, with its natural ice caverns and sub-zero temperatures.

Using the resources of the mercenary Gustave Lytton, the Cryons sought the destruction of the Cybermen using a captured time capsule. However, their plan went awry — Lytton was caught by the Cybermen and underwent transformation surgery. However, Flast — a captive Cryon, used the Doctor's thermal lance to detonate a supply of vastial, a highly volatile mining explosive. The resultant explosion destroyed the Cybermen's control centre and, presumably the dormant Cybermen in the tombs.



Cybermats

Small, rodent-like devices, the Cybermats were used by the recovered Cybermen attempting to try and destroy the human archaeologists responsible for their revival. However, the Second Doctor found a way of jamming the signals that controlled them.

In their attack on the space station known as the Wheel, the Cybermen again used the Cybermats to attack the humans, this time utilising them to destroy the station's bernalium supply as well, thus leaving the station defenceless.

Some years after the CyberWars of the mid-twenty-sixth century, a surviving group of Cybermen were lured toward the planet Vogt by the treacherous human Kellman. Although Kellman was aiding the Vogans in their plan to destroy the Cybermen, he was also aiding the Cybermen who wanted use of a nearby Earth space station. Using Cybermats to spread a deadly disease, Kellman was almost able to take the station over before the Cybermen arrived.



Behind the Scenes

Kit Pedler

"Kit Pedler was not a writer," says Derrick Sherwin, Doctor Who's script editor at the time of the eight-part Cybermen adventure *The Invasion*. "He was a rather good research ophthalmologist who had a particular interest in cybernetics. He was convinced that sometime in the future medicine and cybernetic engineering would combine to enable man to replace worn out, decayed or destroyed parts of the human body."

The strength of Kit Pedler's contribution to *Doctor Who* had always been his scientific vision — he was initially employed as 'scientific adviser' to the programme by then-story editor Gerry Davis. Amongst several candidates interviewed he stood out for his ability to imagine possibilities — and not let science-fact hold fictional ideas back. His collaboration with Davis began and then blossomed in an office overlooked by the newly-built Post Office Tower in Central London. They initiated *The War Machines* and then created the Cybermen.

Kit Pedler was a doctor of medicine and had also gained a second degree in experimental pathology. He had previously published thirty-eight papers about vision and the eye and was a research scientist of great distinction. Davis floated the twin world idea at him and it was the scientist who added the essential characteristics that distinguished the inhabitants as Cybermen.

He envisaged people with so many mechanical replacements that they didn't know whether they were human or machine. Privately, Kit Pedler was rebelling against man's dependence on conventional technology. With the Cybermen he portrayed what could happen if mechanisation got out of hand, creating a race of creatures that were strong, immortal and the antithesis of everything that is human. As a result of embracing the machine, they became soulless, and therefore totally devoid of emotion with no need for the gentler and more artistic instincts inherent in man.

After their genesis in *The Tenth Planet*, the Pedler/Davis team took their creatures onto *The Moonbase* and into *The Tomb of the Cybermen*. Soon after Davis left *Doctor Who* but Pedler went on to submit a storyline that became *The Wheel in Space*, written by David Whitaker, and a one-page synopsis which new script editor Derrick Sherwin turned into *The Invasion*. Kit Pedler's contribution to *Doctor Who* effectively ended there. It was obviously a significant one but only a taste of his future life. His environmental beliefs crystallised into a new kind of television series. *Doomwatch*, again devised with Davis, dramatised several real crises that threatened the ecological stability of various aspects of life on Earth. First broadcast in 1970, it was quite prophetic — on many occasions real scientific developments and disasters had been preceded by episodes of the series on a similar subject.

Pedler, or the "Doctor's Doctor" as he was once described, became a popular media scientist and his opinions were commonly sought, and he even had a regular column in a national newspaper examining popular theory of the day. He co-wrote three novels with Davis based on *Doomwatch*-type scenarios and was involved in a feature film spin-off. In 1979, by then a founding father of the modern green movement in Britain, he wrote *The Quest for Gaia*, a book based on theories expounded first by James Lovelock in *The New Scientist* magazine in 1975. Believing man to be at a critical moment in his history, Pedler's theoretical and practical green advice has subsequently proved an inspiration to many. Kit Pedler died in 1981 during the making of a Thames Television series called *Mind Over Matter* which investigated strange and supposedly paranormal happenings. He was fifty-three. His legacy is vast, and *Doctor Who* must feel very fortunate indeed that it's path crossed, and was enhanced by, Kit Pedler.



John McLay

Gerry Davis



Gerry Davis began on *Doctor Who* as script editor to producer John Wiles and then with Innes Lloyd in 1966 and 1967. Like so many individuals before that had plugged into the phenomenon that is *Doctor Who*, his long association with the programme continued on and off until his death in 1991 aged sixty-four.

When the run of stories with William Hartnell's First Doctor was temporarily deprived of the Daleks by their creator, Terry Nation, a successor was needed. The Cybermen were subsequently born by necessity to Davis and his new scientific adviser, Kit Pedler. An initial brainstorming session formed the Davis/Pedler writing partnership that was to endure for many years, and immediately yielded themes around which Ian Stuart Black wrote *The War Machines*.

Another strand of conversation had Davis speculating on a story scenario in which an unknown planet, a mirror image of our own Earth, emerges to join the existing solar system and enter into orbit nearby. First attempts by Pedler at a script of his own had 'star monk' characters which were not favoured. Davis explored some of his colleague's pet subjects including the dehumanising of medicine and corresponding exploding use of cybernetic technology. A first draft of *The Tenth Planet* by Davis was substantially enhanced by Pedler's scientific theories and musings in the second, and writing together they completed a third and final version. Both shared copyright of the Cybermen concept and established a way of working which served *Doctor Who* on two further occasions. *The Moonbase* and then *The Tomb of the Cybermen*, both in 1967.

Gerry Davis had a creditable writing background before he wrote for the Doctor but probably achieved greater notoriety after he'd left the employ of the BBC to become freelance. A keen reader of science-fiction in his youth, Davis began his career on a regional newspaper before spending four years in the Merchant Navy. He had already lived in Canada and worked for *Doctor Who* deviator Sydney Newman before returning to Northern England to nurse his very sick first wife. One of the earliest writers on *Coronation Street*, he then moved South to the BBC and onto the soaps *199 Park Lane* and *United!* His prolific period on other 'monster' stories for *Doctor Who* whilst script editor, undoubtedly influenced the shaping of Patrick Troughton's era a great deal. These years culminated in an opportunity to produce the series which he chose to decline. In 1969 he developed the environmental series *Doomwatch* for the same channel with Kit Pedler and co-authored three novels based around asso-

ciated ecological disaster-threat themes. He then spent many years in America working as a writer and story editor for television including the networked programmes *Vegas* and *The Bionic Woman*. Another science-fiction connection was his feature film script for *The Final Countdown*. A screenwriting course Davis ran at the University of Southern California was regularly over-subscribed and a testament to his reputation. He adapted several of the *Doctor Who* stories in which he had direct involvement into novels but returned to the programme only once again, to co-write *The Revenge of the Cybermen* with Robert Holmes for the Fourth Doctor in 1975. Before his death, Davis even made a bid, with Terry Nation, to take on the independent production of a new, replacement series of *Doctor Who* — so close was the programme to his heart.

John McLay

Cyberman Checklist

Story	Author	Originally transmitted	Archive status	Average ratings
The Tenth Planet	Kit Pedler & Gerry Davis	8th - 29th October 1966	Episode 1 - 3 plus clips from Episode 4 held by the BBC	6.8 million
The Moonbase	Kit Pedler	11th February - 4th March 1967	Episodes 2 & 4 held by the BBC	8.3 million
The Tomb of the Cybermen	Kit Pedler & Gerry Davis	2nd - 23rd September 1967	all episodes held by the BBC	6.8 million
The Wheel in Space	David Whitaker from a story by Kit Pedler	27th April - 1st June 1968	Episodes 3 & 6 held by the BBC	7.3 million
The Invasion	Derrick Sherwin from a story by Kit Pedler	2nd November - 21st December 1968	Episodes 2, 3 and 5 - 8 held by the BBC	6.9 million
Revenge of the Cybermen	Gerry Davis	19th April - 10th May 1975	all episodes held by the BBC	9.0 million
Earthshock	Eric Saward	8th March - 16th March 1982	all episodes held by the BBC	9.3 million
The Five Doctors	Terrance Dicks	25th November 1983	episode held by the BBC	7.7 million
Attack of the Cybermen	Paula Moore	5th - 12th January 1985	all episodes held by the BBC	8.1 million
Silver Nemesis	Kevin Clarke	23rd November - 7th December 1988	all episodes held by the BBC	5.5 million

All existing episodes from Cybermen stories have been released by BBC Video bar those from *The Tenth Planet*. A BBC audio cassette of the soundtrack recordings from *The Tomb of the Cybermen* is also available. Principal pictorial representation of the missing episodes from *The Tenth Planet*, *The Moonbase* and *The Wheel in Space* is by complete sets of off-screen telesnaps.



OFF CAM



Top left: Building the original Cybermen on the Ealing film set for *The Tenth Planet*.

Centre left: Schoolboy Philip Thomas poses with two Cybermen and a Mire Beast at *The Daily Mail's Schoolboys and Girls Exhibition* in 1967.

Left: One of the earliest foes he met was a Cyberman at a photo-call to announce Tom Baker's casting as the Fourth Doctor in February 1974.

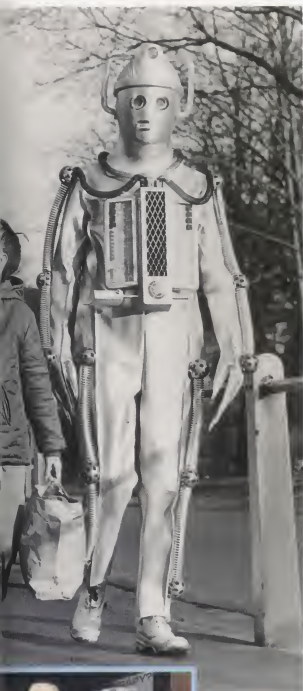
Above centre: Anthony King meets the redesigned Cybermen to promote *The Moonbase* in January 1967. One of those inside the costume was story editor, and co-creator of the Cybermen, Gerry Davis.

Below centre: Making *Dimensions in Time* in 1993.



ERA

A selection of pictures looking at the making of the various Cybermen stories over the last thirty years.



Top right: On location for the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary adventure *Silver Nemesis*.

Centre right: The streets of London became an impromptu dressing room for the actors preparing to do the famous walk down the steps near St. Paul's Cathedral for *The Invasion* in 1968.



Right: For 1985's *Attack of the Cybermen*, the Doctor Who production team returned to Wapsey's Wood near Gerrard's Cross in Buckinghamshire for the surface of Telos – the same location that had been used for 1967's *The Tomb of the Cybermen*.

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